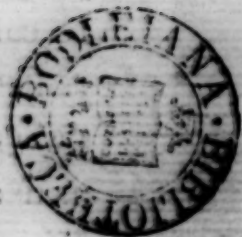




Printed by Henry Fenwick, Snow Hill, London.



C O M B E, Mayor.

A Common Council holden in the Chamber of the Guildhall, of the City of London, on Thursday the 25th Day of September 1800.

THE Committee for General Purposes, did this Day deliver into this Court, a Report in Writing under their Hands, together with Regulations prepared by them, for carrying into Effect the Act of Parliament, passed last Sessions, for extending the Powers of the Court of Requests, which were read in these Words:

To the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Commons of the City of London, in Common Council assembled:

WE, whose Names are hereunto subscribed of your Committee for General Purposes, to whom it was referred by this Honourable Court the 30th Day of July last, to prepare such further Regulations as might be necessary to be made to carry into effect the Provisions of the Act of Parliament, lately passed, to amend, explain, and render more effectual an Act, passed in the third Year of the Reign of King James the First, and an Act of the fourteenth Year of the Reign of King George the Second; and likewise for extending the Powers of the Court of Requests, in the City of London, in and by the said two several Acts continued and established; do certify, That we referred the same to a Sub-Committee, who reported to us in the following Words

To

To the Worshipful the Committee for General Purposes.

WE, whose Names are subscribed of your standing Sub-Committee, to whom it was referred by this worshipful Committee, to take into Consideration the Order of Reference from the Court of Common Council of the 30th of July last, to prepare such further Regulations as might be necessary to be made to carry into effect the Provisions of the Act of Parliament, lately passed, To amend, explain, and render more effectual an Act, passed in the Third Year of the Reign of King *James* the First; and another Act, passed in the Fourteenth Year of the Reign of King *George* the Second; and likewise for extending the Powers of the Court of Requests, in the City of *London*, in and by the said two several Acts continued and established, and report thereon; do certify, That we have met many Times on the Business of the said Reference, and directed Mr. *Holmes*, the principal Clerk of the said Court, to lay before us all the Information in his Power upon the Subject, who accordingly informed us, that he had addressed a Letter to *Edmund Estcourt*, Esq. Solicitor to the Commissioners for Stamp Duties, requesting to know whether the Summons or Process of the Court for Debts, above *Forty Shillings*, were liable to any, and what Stamp Duties; and that he had received an answer from Mr. *Hughes*, Inspector of Stamp Duties (which he produced) intimating, that no Stamps were necessary; and Mr. *Holmes* also informed us, that he had applied to Mr. *Farmer*, Prothonotary of the *Stepney* and *Hackney* Court of Record, for the like Information, in respect to the last mentioned Court, in which Debts are recoverable between *Forty Shillings* and *Five Pounds*; and that Mr. *Farmer* likewise acquainted him that the Process of that Court did not require any Stamp Duty. Your Sub-Committee are therefore of Opinion, that no Stamps are necessary on the Process of the Court of Requests in *London*, notwithstanding the Extension of the Jurisdiction to Debts amounting to *Five Pounds*.

Mr. *Holmes* also stated, That there were several Cases to which he was apprehensive the Jurisdiction of the Court would not extend; and in order to prevent Difficulties he submitted the Propriety of taking Mr. *Recorder's* Opinion on those Points, for the Information and Government of the Commissioners.

WE

WE accordingly directed Mr. *Solicitor* to prepare a Case on the Subject, and obtain Mr. *Recorder's* Opinion thereon as soon as possible.

WE have likewise perused the Regulations, adopted by the Court of Common Council on the 29th of *July* 1774, and likewise the further Regulations agreed to by the said Court on the 25th of *March* 1791, for conducting the Business of the Court of Requests; and in order to make the same applicable to the Purposes of the Act, passed in the last Sessions of Parliament, we have revised the said respective Regulations, and made several Alterations and Additions in and to the same; and caused a Copy of the said amended Regulations to be hereunto annexed.

WE took a View of the Part of *Guildhall* Chapel, now occupied for the Court of Requests; and also of the other Part of the Chapel (now used by Mr. *Dance* as a temporary Office for compleating the large Plan of this City) and it appears to us probable that the Increase of Business may render it necessary to appropriate the whole of the said Chapel for transacting the Business of the Court of Requests; but we decline recommending any Alteration therein until experience has shewn that further Accommodation is wanted.

WE also directed a Board to be painted and fixed in the said Court, directing the Suitors to apply to the Commissioners when sitting, in Cases of Complaint against any of the Beadles for neglect of Duty or otherwise.

WE likewise caused Advertisements to be inserted in the *London* Gazette and several of the Morning News Papers, for the Purpose of informing the Public, that the Act of Parliament extending the Powers of the Court of Requests in *London*, to Debts not exceeding *Five Pounds*, would commence and take effect from the first Day of *October* 1800.

WE also inspected the Proceedings of the Court of Aldermen of the 21st of *June* 1791, directing, that the Beadles of the Court of Requests should in future be elected annually at the first Court of Aldermen after the first of *June*; and that each Beadle should enter into a Bond, in the Penalty of *Two Hundred Pounds* (himself in *One Hundred Pounds*, and two Sureties in *Fifty Pounds* each) for his faithful Execution of the said Office.

HAVING

HAVING taken into Consideration the Expediency of admitting Counsel to plead in the Court of Requests, we are decidedly of Opinion, that as no Points of Law can be agitated before the Commissioners, it would be extremely improper to admit either Counsel or Attornies at Law, to plead or act for any Plaintiff or Defendant, in the said Court.

MR. *Holmes*, by the Direction of your Sub-Committee, also obtained and laid before them Accounts of Fees taken at the several Courts of Requests in *Westminster, Southwark, Whitechapel, &c.* which we compared with the List of Fees taken at the Court of Requests in this City; and after due Consideration we prepared a Table of Fees, which we conceive are proper to be taken in the said Court in *London*, from and after the first Day of *October* 1800, and caused a Copy of the same to be hereunto annexed.

YOUR Sub-Committee think it highly expedient that on account of the expected Increase of Business, and in order to render the most effectual Advantage to the poorer Classes of the Community, the Fees to be taken in future at the Court of Requests, in *London*, should not be divided amongst the Officers as heretofore; but from and after the first Day of *October* 1800, all such Fees (except those to be taken by the Beadles, as expressed in the annexed Table) should be accounted for, on Oath, by the principal Clerk, and paid by him into the Chamber monthly; and from thenceforth the several Officers of the said Court, should be paid fixed Salaries out of the Chamber by Quarterly Payments.

YOUR Sub-Committee have likewise examined into the Emoluments of the several Officers of the Court of Requests, and find the same in the Year 1799, to have been as follows:

THE Principal Clerk	- - - - -	294 13 6
THE Assistant Clerk	- - - - -	147 17 6
THE Extra Clerk	- - - - -	40 0 0
THE Four Beadles	- 68 <i>l.</i> 2 <i>s.</i> 3 <i>d.</i> each	- 272 9 0
(exclusive of their Fees on serving Attachments and Executions)		
For Stationary, Printing, and other incidental Expences	- - - - -	28 3 0

£ 784 3 0

YOUR

YOUR Sub-Committee, therefore, taking into their Consideration the increased Responsibility and Trouble of the Principal Clerk, are of Opinion that his Salary should be *Four Hundred Pounds per Annum*.

THAT the Salary of the Assistant Clerk should be fixed at *Two Hundred Pounds per Annum*.

THAT the Salary of the Extra Clerk should be fixed at *Fifty Pounds per Annum*.

AND your Sub-Committee recommend *Gilbert Whittell*, the present Extra Clerk, to be continued in that Situation; and that in future the Election of such Extra Clerk should be in the Court of Common Council: and,

THAT the Salary of the Beadles (exclusive of the Fees for summoning Witnesses, serving Attachments, and levying Executions, as specified in the annexed Table, and which must be more considerable than heretofore) should be fixed at *Sixty Pounds per Annum*, each.

THAT the Committee for General Purposes should half yearly examine and order Payment (out of the Fund arising from the said Fees) of the necessary Expences for Stationary, Printing, providing Gowns for the Clerks and Officers, and other incident Matters, relative to the said Court.

THAT in case the Fees, specified in the annexed Table, should amount to more than sufficient to pay the said Salaries and Expences, such Surplus shall be applied, under the Direction of the Court of Common Council, either in augmentation of Salaries, or reduction of Fees.

YOUR Sub-Committee also recommend that an Alteration should take place in respect to the Sub-Committee, for examining the Accounts of the Clerk of Requests, and transacting the other Business relative to that Court. And in order that there should be a sufficient Number of Members of such Sub-Committee from Time to Time acquainted with the Nature of the Business, are of Opinion that in future one Alderman and two Commoners only should be removed every three Months; and the same Number in succession appointed to fill up the Vacancies. All which is submitted to the Judgment of your Worshipful Committee, this 24th Day of September 1800.

J. Denziloe,
Sam^l. Tomkins,
P. Fenton.

James Dixon,
Jos^b. Boucock,
Jas. Birt,

T
a
D
c
a
C
h

u
a
C
to

P
A
A
D

Be
to
th
no
pe
af
aw

"
"
"
"
"
"

REGULATIONS for the Conduct of the Officers
of the Court of Requests in *London*, to commence
on the first Day of *October* 1800.

THAT upon the Application of every Complainant or Creditor to recover a Debt, a Summons shall be issued for the Plaintiff and Defendant to appear peremptorily on a certain Day (the Court Days being *Wednesday* and *Saturday*) and that every Summons shall contain a Notice, informing the Defendant that unless he or she appears as the Summons directs, and is ready when called by the Cryer of the Court, an Attachment will forthwith be issued against him or her for such Default.

THAT the hearing of any Cause shall not be postponed, unless upon special Application by or on behalf of the Plaintiff or Defendant to the Commissioners, when sitting in Court, and sufficient Cause shewn to induce them to order the Hearing to be adjourned to some future Court.

THAT the Beadles shall officiate alternately as Cryer, to call the Plaintiff and Defendant as the Causes stand for hearing; and if due Attendance is not given by both Parties, when they are called, that Attachments or Nonuits shall be granted or entered against the Defaulters respectively, as the Case may require.

THAT in case any Attachment shall not be served by one of the Beadles within Fourteen Days after the Date thereof, that an Order to the following Purport shall be issued upon the Application of the Plaintiff to empower the Plaintiff (or any proper Person to be nominated by the Plaintiff) to serve such Order upon the Defendant personally to which Service the Plaintiff (or Person nominated as aforesaid) must be Sworn before Judgment by Default, can be awarded by the Court.

To

“ You are served with this Order to the Intent that if you
“ omit to appear in the Court of Requests at *Guildhall, London*,
“ on *day* next after the due Service hereof, to make
“ your Defence in a Plaint, at the Suit of *A. B.* for the Sum of
“ Shillings, the Court will adjudge
“ the same by Default, and grant an Execution against you immedi-
“ ately for that Sum with Costs.”

THAT

THAT no Execution shall be in force after the Expiration of one Calendar Month, from the Date thereof, until the same shall be renewed, and then from Time to Time for one Calendar Month only from the Date of such respective Renewal. And in case any Execution shall not be levied by one of the Beadles before the same shall be renewable, then the Plaintiff shall be at Liberty to employ a Serjeant at Mace (in exclusion of the Beadles) to levy any such renewed Execution.

THAT all Executions levied by any of the Beadles, or discharged by the Plaintiffs, shall be forthwith returned to the Clerk with the Particulars of such Levy or Discharge indorsed thereon.

THAT the Beadles shall forthwith account for and pay over to the Clerk all Monies received by them respectively upon Executions. And also produce all such Executions as shall have been delivered to them, and which remain unexecuted ; and in case the Beadles shall not give satisfactory Answers to the Inquiries of the Principal or Assistant Clerk respecting any such Executions, or neglect to pay the Monies received by them as aforesaid ; that the principal Clerk shall communicate such Misconduct to the Committee for General Purposes without delay.

THAT it be recommended to the Court of Aldermen to empower the Committee for General Purposes, to suspend such of the Beadles as may misbehave until the Cause of such Suspension can be laid before the said Court.

THAT it be also recommended to the Court of Aldermen to order the Keeper of the *Poultry Compter* ; and also the Keeper of the *Giltspur Street Compter*, to make Returns to the Commissioners, or the Principal Clerk monthly ; that is to say, on the first *Tuesday* in every Month, specifying the Number and Names of the Prisoners in their respective Custody under or by virtue of Process, issuing from or out of the Court of Requests.

THAT all Monies remaining in Court, shall be under the Care of the Principal Clerk only ; and that the Principal and Assistant Clerk shall respectively enter into Bonds to the Corporation, with two or more sufficient Sureties ; that is to say, the Principal Clerk in the
penal

penal Sum of *Five Hundred Pounds*, and the Assistant Clerk in the penal Sum of *Two Hundred Pounds*.

N. B. The four Beadles are elected by the Court of Aldermen annually, and enter into Bonds (for the due discharge of their Duty, and regularly accounting for the Monies received by them) in the penal Sum of *Two Hundred Pounds*; that is to say, each of the Beadles in *One Hundred Pounds*, and his two Sureties in *Fifty Pounds* each.

THAT the Assistant and Extra Clerks shall execute all Orders they may respectively receive from the Principal Clerk, relative to the Business of the Court.

THAT the Principal and Assistant Clerks shall wear black Gowns tufted, and the Beadles plain black Gowns, during theittings of the Commissioners.

THAT the Committee for General Purposes shall continue once in every three Calendar Months or oftener, to examine into the Proceedings of the Court, and the Conduct of the Officers; also to audit the Clerks Accounts, and to order the unclaimed Cash to be paid into the Chamber of this City, allowing a Sum, not exceeding *Two Hundred Pounds*, to remain in the Hands of the Principal Clerk, to enable him to transact the Business of the Court.

COURT

COURT OF REQUESTS, LONDON.

TABLE of FEES.

To Commence 1st October 1800.

On DEBTS not exceeding Forty Shillings.	On DEBTS above Forty Shillings.
Summons - - - - One Shilling.	- - - One Shilling.
Ditto for the Attendance of not more than two Witnesses - - - - One Shilling.	- - - One Shilling.
Attachments - - - - Two Shillings.	- - - Three Shillings.
Hearing an Order of Court Sixpence.	- - - One Shilling.
Executions - - - - Two Shillings and Sixpence.	- - - Three Shillings and Sixpence.
Paying Money into Court Sixpence.	- - - One Shilling.
Searching Books - - - *Twopence	- - - *Twopence.
Receiving Money out of Court, not exceeding 10s. exclusive of Costs - Nil.	
Above 10s. and not ex- ceeding 40s. - - - Sixpence.	- - - One Shilling.

**** THIS Fee is paid once only in respect of each Debt, and will entitle the Plaintiff to search the Books as often as may be required.**

No Fees to be taken as heretofore for entering Non-suits, or receiving Money out of Court, when the Debt recovered does not exceed 10s. exclusive of Costs, nor for calling the Plaintiffs or Defendants, for administering Oaths to Parties or Witnesses, for Orders to adjourn Hearings, for renewing Attachments or Executions, or for any other Matter not specified in the Tables.

BEADLES.

B E A D L E S F E E S.

(To be taken independent of their SALARIES.)

Summoning each Witness	- - -	<i>Sixpence.</i>
Serving Notice of Attachment on Defendant		<i>One Shilling.</i>
Giving Notice of such Service to Plaintiff		<i>Sixpence.</i>
Levying Executions on Debts,		
Not exceeding 15s.	- - - -	<i>One Shilling.</i>
Above 15s. and not exceeding 20s.		<i>One Shilling and Sixpence.</i>
Above 20s. and not exceeding 40s.		<i>Two Shillings and Sixpence.</i>
Above 40s. and not exceeding 60s.		<i>Three Shillings.</i>
Above 60s. and not exceeding 80s.		<i>Four Shillings.</i>
Above 80s.	- - - -	<i>Five Shillings.</i>

ALL Fees paid by Plaintiffs, and also the Beadles Fees above-mentioned for summoning Witnesses, serving Attachments, and levying Executions, are to be allowed in the Costs, to be recovered from Defendants, except for searching the Books, and receiving Money out of Court.

AND we agreeing with the Sub-Committee in their Report, humbly submit the same to this Honourable Court, this 24th Day of September 1800.

<i>James Shears,</i> <i>Rich^d. Caffin Dendy,</i> <i>Sam^l. Tomkins.</i>	<i>P. Fenton,</i> <i>Ja^s. Birt,</i> <i>John Adcock,</i> <i>Tho^s. Ayres,</i>
--	--

RESOLVED, That this Court doth agree to the said Regulations and Tables of Fees ; and that it be referred back to the Committee for General Purposes to carry the same into Execution.

ORDERED, That the said Report and Appendix be printed, and a Copy thereof sent to every Member of this Court.

R I X.

